DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5450.202A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: MISSION, FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF NAVY TACTICAL
       INTEROPERABILITY SUPPORT ACTIVITY (NTISA)

Ref: (a) OPNAVNOTE 5450 Ser 09B26/32658 of 29 Sep 77 (NOTAL)
       (b) OPNAVINST 9410.1 (NOTAL)

Encl: (1) Functions and Tasks of the Navy Tactical
           Interoperability Support Activity

1. **Purpose.** To revise the functions and tasks of the Navy Tactical Interoperability Support Activity (NTISA) under the mission established by reference (a).

2. **Cancellation.** OPNAVINST 5450.202

3. **Mission.** The mission of NTISA, delineated in reference (a), is as follows: Provide technical services to the Chief of Naval Operations to establish Navy tactical data systems interoperability criteria, develop interface design standards, certify interoperability of Navy tactical data systems, perform required data link message standards support functions, and perform such other interoperability functions or tasks as may be directed by the Chief of Naval Operations.

4. **Status and Command Relationships.** NTISA is a shore activity in active operational status under a Commanding Officer who reports to the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). NTISA implements the Navy interoperability policy defined in reference (b). NTISA is subject to the area coordination authority of the Commander, Naval Base, San Diego.

5. **Action.** In accomplishing the assigned mission, Commanding Officer, NTISA will ensure performance of the functions and tasks set forth in enclosure (1). Commanding Officer, NTISA and Commander, Naval Base, San Diego, as area coordinator, are requested to advise CNO of any modifications to the mission, functions, or tasks of NTISA which may be required by changing circumstances or are otherwise deemed appropriate. Submit recommended changes via the chain of command to CNO (OP-942), with a copy to Commander, Naval Base, San Diego.

R. E. KIRKSEY
By direction

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OPNAVINST 5450.202A

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FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF THE
NAVY TACTICAL INTEROPERABILITY SUPPORT ACTIVITY

1. **FUNCTIONS AND TASKS**

1.1. <u>Organizational Relationships</u>. The Commanding Officer, NTISA, reports to CNO. The Director, Space, Command and Control (OP-094) acts as Command Assist Official for NTISA. In the execution of its mission, NTISA coordinates with Fleet Commanders on operational matters, and with the Systems Commands (SYSCOM)/Principal Development Activities (PDAs) in matters concerning the technical aspects of tactical command and control systems and combat direction systems interoperability. Successful execution of the Navy's interoperability policy requires a high degree of cooperation among all concerned.

1.2 <u>Responsibilities</u>. NTISA's responsibilities for executing the Navy's interoperability policy are as follows:

    a. <u>Specification of data exchange requirements</u>. Interoperability requirements for Navy tactical data systems are developed in Navy, Joint and Allied forums. Technical and procedural standards derived from these requirements will form the basis for Navy Operational Specifications (OPSPECs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for each Tactical Digital Information Link (TADIL) and for Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems (JINTACCS) Message Text Formats (MTF). These OPSPECs and SOPs govern design of the Navy Tactical Data Systems. NTISA will:

        (1) Coordinate activities of the Operational Interoperability Requirements Group (OIRG) and the Technical Interoperability Standards Group (TISG) to develop tactical data system interoperability requirements.

        (2) Develop the Navy JINTACCS Program Management Plan and supporting documents to support Navy Tactical Command and Control interoperability programs.

(3) Participate in the development of the TADIL J message standard and system operating procedures at Navy, Joint and Allied forums.

(4) Develop and maintain OPSPECs for Link-4A, 11, 14, 16 and JINTACCS MTF and other Navy-unique MTFs used by Navy tactical data systems.

(5) Develop and maintain Navy TADIL SOPs.

(6) Develop, in coordination with the Systems Command, Program Development Activities and Fleet Commanders, implementation schedules and funding profiles to implement new requirements.

(7) Ensure that Navy operational requirements are reflected in the TADILs and MTF standards.

b. Configuration control of Navy interoperability documentation, data formats, and message standards. Configuration management of the operational standards reflected in the STANAGs and Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) publications is conducted by NATO and Joint Service working groups which provide for consideration of Navy requirements. After Joint and Allied agreement, Navy documentation should reflect these new requirements in order to ensure interoperability. Configuration management of operational and developmental standards is controlled by the Joint Tactical Command, Control and Communications Agency (JTC^{3}A). The Navy is a participant in the configuration management working groups which control developmental standards. NTISA will:

(1) Maintain a current status of all U.S. and Allied platforms/systems TADIL and MTF implementation.

(2) Provide Navy representatives or technical support for the designated Navy representatives to Allied and Joint configuration management boards and their working groups as directed.

(3) Chair intra-Navy developmental analysis and configuration management boards and committees as directed.

(4) Develop data link interface analysis reports in response to fleet requests.

(5) Interpret platform-to-platform interface specifications to ensure a common understanding among Navy activities implementing message standards.

c. <u>Certification of Tactical Data Systems Interoperability</u>.
Navy Tactical Data Systems employing JCS directed tactical Command
and Control systems or NATO STANAGs comply with the message
standards in order to be compatible and interoperable. Software
programs for new systems or program updates for operational systems
which incorporate significant changes to the tactical command and
control systems interface, whether developed by Navy activities or
through contracted effort, <u>are subject to certification prior to
their introduction into service</u>. Representative systems are
subjected to testing and certification by a Joint Interface Test
Force (JITF). NTISA will:

    (1) Develop interoperability criteria.

    (2) Advise the appropriate software development activity
when a model, phase, version, or update of a program requires
certification or requalification.

    (3) Coordinate and schedule the employment of Multiple
Units Link-11 Test and Operational Training System (MULTOTS) MSQ-123
units for system certification. MULTOTS vans are operated, funded,
maintained, and controlled by NTISA.

    (4) Function as Intermediate Maintenance Activity for
MULTOTS vans. Manage the engineering, maintenance and material
support. Coordinate logistical and supply support for the fielded
MULTOTS units.

    (5) Integrate, when practicable, Navy certification efforts
with those required by Joint and/or Allied test facilities.

    (6) Certify the interoperability of Navy tactical data
systems.

    (7) Function as Navy Joint Tactical Air Operations (JTAO)
Participating Test Unit Coordinator (PTUC), responsible for
coordination and support of test activities of the Navy
Participating Test Units (PTUs) for JTAO Configuration Management
Testing.

    (8) Coordinate with TADIL J test system development
activities to ensure Navy certification testing requirements are
supported in the test system design.

           Enclosure (1)

1.3. Personnel. The control of military and civil service personnel is coordinated with the major claimant, Field Support Activity (OP-09BF), through establishment of billet requirements and the allocation of ceiling points by fiscal year and strength, respectively. Commanding Officer, NTISA, is authorized to fill non-high grade civil service vacancies as they occur provided required classification action is completed and an approved position description exists for each billet. Filling high grade civilian positions is done with approval of Field Support Activity.

1.4. Funding

a. Direct Funding. Execution of NTISA's primary mission is supported by funds designated by CNO. Expenditure of these funds will be followed with approved plans.

b. Reimbursable Funding. All tasking of other commands executed by the Commanding Officer, NTISA, will be via Project Directive (PD) or similar tasking document. Tasking of NTISA by another command will be via the appropriate funding documents. NTISA will provide all funding required to support MULTOTS employment in tactical data system interoperability certification.